

Office on Violence Against Women

Administrators' Corner



S*T*O*P Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program

April, 2005

Launch of OVW STOP Unit Newsletter

Greetings STOP Administrators!

n an effort to keep you better informed, the STOP Unit members at the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) would like to introduce you to our monthly electronic newsletter, the "Administrators' Corner." The newsletter will:

- Keep you updated on the latest news from OVW;
- Feature answers to <u>your</u> questions and highlight <u>your</u> ideas and innovations;
- Be emailed to you quarterly. If you have any questions that you want addressed, or great ideas that you want to share, please forward them to your Program Manager.

We are excited to hear from you and appreciate any feedback on ways we can improve this newsletter.

FEBRUARY FEATURES

Question of the month

Q: Is there flexibility in the "start date" for the STOP awards?

A: Yes. If it is easier for you to have your award start on a date other than the one we assigned,

please let your Program Manager know immediately, as it may still be possible to modify the start/end dates.

Reminder of the month

STATUTORY Reminders

STOP Allocations

42 U.S.C. 3711 § 2002(c)(3) "The STOP Statute" states that:

"Upon satisfying the terms of subsection (d), any State shall be qualified for funds provided under this part upon certification that—" of the amount granted (A) not less than 25 percent shall be allocated to police and not less than 25 percent shall be allocated to prosecutors; (B) not less than 30 percent shall be allocated to victim services; and (C) not less than 5 percent shall be allocated for State and local courts (including juvenile courts)"

We have gotten several questions concerning whether a victim advocate in a prosecutor's office can be funded under the "victim services" allocation. 42 U.S.C. 3711 § 2003(8) defines victim services as a "nonprofit, nongovernmental organization that assists domestic violence or sexual assault victims, including rape crisis centers, battered women's shelters, and other sexual assault or domestic violence programs,

including nonprofit, nongovernmental organizations assisting domestic violence or sexual assault victims through the legal process." If the victim advocate is an employee of the prosecutor's office, the position cannot be funded by victim service funds, but instead must be funded by prosecution funds (or other discretionary funds).

Implementation Plan

42 U.S.C. 3711 § 2002(c)(2) states that:

"...grantees and subgrantees shall develop a plan for implementation and shall consult and coordinate with nonprofit, nongovernmental victim services programs, including sexual assault and domestic violence victim services programs."

Please keep this in mind as you make plans to develop your implementation plans in the upcoming months.

Miscellaneous News

New Staff Hired for OVW's STOP Unit

We would like to introduce you to a new member of the STOP Unit: Margaret "Peg" Hacskaylo.

Peg, our new Program Manager, is a social worker who has worked in the field of domestic violence victims services for over fifteen years. Before joining OVW, she served as the Deputy Director of My Sister's Place in Washington, DC, and as the Project Director for the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center. She will be managing the Northeast states. Her phone number is (202) 305-1177.

We hope the forth and final member of the STOP unit will be joining us within the next 4 weeks, bringing us to full capacity.

Message From Diane Stuart



Dear Colleagues:

I hope you enjoy this first issue of the *Administrators*' *Corner*. It was developed with

you in mind and we hope you will find it useful and helpful in your work. Close communication between OVW and the STOP Administrators is crucial---please help us to help you by offering suggestions as to the kind of information you would like to see in this newsletter. We will do our best to address all your ideas and inquiries in future issues.

It is hard to believe it has already been six months since we commemorated the 10th anniversary of the 1994 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). Nearly every day we witness the groundbreaking work of the many committed individuals who have done so much to improve the Nation's response to violence against women. Thank you for your extraordinary efforts. Now our attention is turned to the reauthorization of VAWA and targeting our priorities for the next decade. We will be looking to you, the STOP Administrators, for your views on where our efforts should be directed.

As many of you are aware, new forms to measure program effectiveness have been developed for the STOP Formula Program. We had originally asked that you have your forms completed and sent to us by March 31. Due to the technical difficulties we are experiencing uploading the forms to GMS, we are extending this deadline for an additional 60 days. We thank you for your patience with this process.

Again, please help us to make this newsletter a beneficial tool by sharing your views, ideas, and suggestions. I am personally so appreciative of the work you do every day on behalf of women and families.

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I look forward to seeing all of you in Chicago this September for the annual STOP Administrators meeting!

Diane M. Stuart